

Land Smoothing

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - practice code 466



DEFINITION

Land Smoothing is removing irregularities on the land surface with earth moving equipment.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

Land Smoothing is classified as “rough grading” and does not require a complete grid survey. Irregularities are smoothed to the degree required for installation of other conservation practices and farming activities.

The purpose of the practice is to improve surface drainage, provide for more effective use of precipitation, obtain more uniform planting depths, improve equipment

operation, improve terrace alignment, and facilitate contour cultivation.

This practice is used on areas where depressions, mounds, old terraces, turn rows, and other surface irregularities interfere with the application of needed conservation practices. However, it is limited to areas that have adequate soil depth or where, topsoil can be removed, stockpiled and replaced after shaping is complete.

Additional information including design criteria and specifications are in the local NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.